



Petromyzon marinus

Sea lamprey

General

1. Anadromous, parasitic jawless condrachthyes
2. Scaleless and lacks paired fins
3. Occurs in coastal waters, lakes, water courses

Geography and Habitat

1. Native: North Atlantic: North American coast from Labrador to the Gulf of Mexico and possibly up the St. Lawrence Seaway to Lake Ontario (but not above); European coast from Norway, Iceland, and the Barents Sea to northern Africa and the western Mediterranean; absent from the eastern Mediterranean and Black Sea
2. Habitat: Larvae prefer soft sediment substrata in clear streams; mature, parasitic phase prefers cool-water lakes

Invasion Pathways

1. Natural dispersal through the Welland, Erie, St. Lawrence canal systems
2. Larval lampreys used as bait
3. Ship hull fouling: attaching to boats ascending the canal system

Sources

1. <http://www.issg.org/database/species/ecology.asp?si=542&fr=1&sts=sss&lang=EN>
2. <http://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/FactSheet.aspx?SpeciesID=836>



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<http://www.issg.org/database/image.asp?ii=956&ic=e>